

- 8 -

**CLAIMS:**

1. A method of steering a fluid drilling head of the type provided with high pressure fluid through a flexible hose, including the steps of providing a biasing force to the drilling head and controlling the direction of the biasing force by rotating the drilling  
5 head.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of rotating the drilling head is performed by rotating the flexible hose about its longitudinal axis.
3. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the flexible hose is rotated from a location remote from the drilling head.
- 10 4. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the hose is fed from a rotatable drum into an adjacent borehole, the rotation axis of the drum being substantially at right angles to the axis of the borehole, and wherein the hose is rotated by rotating the drum and associated support gear about the axis of the borehole.
5. A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the hose is fed from a rotatable drum  
15 having a substantially horizontal axis of rotation, and the hose is rotated by rotating the drum and associated support gear about a vertical axis substantially aligned with a vertical bore through which the hose is fed into the ground.
6. A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the fluid drilling head is deployed from ground level and said location remote from the drilling head is located at or above  
20 ground level.
7. A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the fluid drilling head is deployed from an underground location wherein the adjacent borehole is closer to horizontal than to vertical.
8. A method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the drilling head is  
25 rotated by a powered swivel located in the flexible hose.
9. A method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the drilling head is rotated by a non-powered ratcheting swivel located in the flexible hose.
10. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the drilling head includes a plurality of cutting jets issuing from a rotatable head and wherein the biasing  
30 force is provided by partial shading of at least one cutting jet over a predetermined limited arc of its rotation.
11. A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the biasing force is provided by an asymmetrical gauging ring located on the fluid drilling head.

- 9 -

12. A method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the biasing force is provided by an asymmetrical arrangement of retro jets provided to propel the cutting head forwardly.

13. A method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the biasing force is  
5 provided by a fixed offset jet nozzle in the drilling head.